Based Upon: PCT/EP2004/013503

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A door-closing damper (10), having a stop element (22) guided in an elongated damper body (14) with an open end and a closed end (16, 18), wherein the damper body (14) has a receiving chamber (20) for receiving a sliding element (12)[[,]] which is connected with the stop element (22), ~~wherein~~ on ~~its~~ an outer contour the sliding element (12) has at least one ~~or several~~ sliding ~~faces, which rest~~ face which rests against an interior wall section (26) of the receiving chamber (20) assigned to the open end (16) of the damper body (14), ~~wherein~~ a sealing device (34) resting against the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) is arranged on ~~the~~ an end (32) of the sliding element (12) projecting into the receiving chamber (20), ~~wherein~~ the end (32) of the sliding element (12) projecting into the receiving chamber (20) and the sealing device (34) form a hollow space (36) ~~together~~ with the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) in which, when the sliding element (12) is charged with a pressure, a counter-pressure is exerted on the sliding element (12) ~~because of the~~ from an air pressure ~~being~~ built up in the hollow space (36), and ~~wherein,~~ for reducing the air pressure[[,]] the hollow space (36) has at least one opening (38a, 38b) for ~~the~~ an escape of the air, and ~~wherein~~ a damping member (39a, 39b) works together with the opening (38a, 38b)~~, which constitutes~~ to form a flow resistance to the air escaping through the opening (38a, 38b), the door-closing damper (10) comprising:

~~characterized in that~~

the sealing device ~~has~~ (34) having at least one elastic sealing lip (34) which[[,]] when as the air pressure is ~~being~~ built up in the hollow space (36) ~~which is~~ formed by the end (32) of the sliding element (12) with the sealing device (34) extending into the receiving chamber (20) and the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20), is pushed against the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20), ~~so that~~ a sliding connection is created which is largely air-tight ~~to a large extent~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damping member (39a, 39b) has a porous material ~~as the~~ to resist an air flow ~~resistance device~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim ~~1 or~~ 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damping member (39a, 39b) is ~~an element~~ made of one of a sinter metal, a plastic foam, a textile material, a felt material ~~or such~~ and a material providing a resistance to the air flow.

4. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the opening (38a) is arranged at the closed end (18) of the damper body (14).

5. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 4, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damping member (39a) ~~can be arranged~~ is fitted into a support area (43a) formed on the damper body (14)~~, wherein the~~ and an entire air flow passes through the damping member (39).

6. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the opening (38b) is arranged on the sliding element (12).

7. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 4, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damping member (39b) ~~can be arranged~~ is fitted into a support area (43b) formed on the damper body (14)~~, wherein the~~ and an entire air flow passes through the damping member (39b).

8. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 7, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damping member (39a, 39b) is arranged on ~~the~~ a side of the opening (38a, 38b) facing away from the hollow chamber (36).

9. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 8, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damping member is arranged on ~~the~~ a second side of the opening (38a, 38b) facing the hollow chamber (36).

10. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 9, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damping member is arranged inside the opening (38a, 38b).

11. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 10, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damper body (12) has a spring (42)~~, which is~~ arranged in the receiving chamber (20) and pushes the sliding element (12) at least partially out of the receiving chamber (20), and ~~against whose~~ has a spring force against which the sliding element (12) can be pushed into the receiving chamber (20).

12. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 11, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the elastic sealing lip (34) is substantially inclined ~~in the direction~~ toward the closed end (18) of the receiving chamber (20), is ~~arranged~~ at least partially spaced apart~~, at least~~

~~partially,~~ from the outer contour (24) of the sliding element (12) and is arranged at the end (32) of the sliding element (12) extending into the receiving chamber (20).

13. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 12, wherein ~~characterized in that because of the~~ an underpressure ~~being~~ created in the hollow space (36)[[,]] spaces the elastic sealing lip (34) of the sealing device in the space (30) between the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) and the outer contour (24) of the sliding element (12) ~~is spaced~~ apart from the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) during an ~~in the course of the~~ at least partial pull-out of the sliding element (12) from the receiving chamber (20) ~~in such a way~~ so that air can flow through the space (30) between the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) and the outer contour (24) of the sliding element (12) ~~past~~ beyond the sealing lip (34) into the hollow space (36).

14. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 13, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ at least one protrusion (50) is formed on the ~~inner~~ interior wall section of the receiving chamber (20) associated with the open end (16) of the damper body (14)[[,]] which ~~is in contact with~~ contacts the at least one sliding ~~face(s)~~ face of the sliding element (12).

15. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 14, wherein the ~~characterized in that~~ at least one protrusion (52) is formed on the sliding element (12) between the outer contour (24) ~~of the same~~ and the inner contour (28) ~~of the receiving chamber (20)~~ which[[,]] during ~~in the course of~~ the at least partial pull-out of the sliding element (12) out of the receiving chamber (20)[[,]] strikes the protrusion (50) formed on the ~~inner~~ interior wall section of the receiving chamber (20) associated with the open end (16) of the damper body (14).

16. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 15, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the damper body (14) ~~can be inserted~~ is insertable into a blind bore (58) in a receiver body (54), the damper body (14) has a shoulder (60)~~, which encircles it~~ at least partially[[,]] encircling on ~~its~~ an outer contour (24) associated with ~~its~~ the open end (16)[[,]] which limits ~~the~~ an insertion depth of the damper body (14) in the blind bore (58).

17. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 16, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the sliding body (12) has an elongated recess (44) which[[,]] at least partially[[,]] extends substantially in ~~the~~ a direction of ~~its~~ a longitudinal extension and is arranged at

~~its end associated with~~ the closed end (18) of the receiving chamber (20), into which the spring (42) arranged in the receiving chamber (20) extends.

18. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 17, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ a pin (46)[[,]] which extends in the longitudinal extension direction of the receiving chamber (20)~~, has been~~ is formed on the inner contour of the closed end (18) of the receiving chamber (20) which, in the completely pushed-in state of the sliding element (12), extends substantially completely into a ~~its~~ recess (44) which runs ~~in the direction of~~ along the longitudinal extension.

19. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 18, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the spring (42) arranged in the receiving chamber (20) is ~~can be~~ conducted over the pin (46) and movably arranged on an ~~the~~ outer contour of the ~~latter~~ pin (46), and ~~that~~ a space (48) [[is]] formed between the pin (46) and the recess (44) ~~extending~~ extends in the longitudinal extension direction in the sliding element (12) ~~in such a way,~~ so that the spring (42) is movably arranged on ~~the~~ an inner contour of the recess.

20. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 19, wherein ~~characterized in that,~~ with the sliding element (12) substantially completely pushed-in, the spring (42) is ~~squared away~~ compressed in the space (48) between the pin (46) and the recess (44).

21. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 20, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the stop element (22) has a detent head (23) which projects at least partially over ~~the~~ an edge area (17) of ~~the~~ an opening at the open end (16) of the damper body (14) and which, with the substantially completely pushed-in sliding element (12), is stopped on the edge area (17).

22. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 21, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the sliding element (12) is ~~embodied in one piece~~ integrated with the sealing device (34).

23. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with ~~one of claims 1 to~~ claim 22, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the stop element has a ~~magnetic snap-in arrangement or the like contact device for the~~ releasable connection of the door-closing damper with a connecting element.

24. (Currently Amended) A door-closing damper (10), having a stop element (22) guided in an elongated damper body (14) with an open end and a closed end (16, 18), wherein the damper body (14) has a receiving chamber (20) for receiving a sliding element (12)[[,]] which is connected with the stop element (22), wherein on ~~its~~ an outer contour the sliding element (12) has at least one ~~or several~~ sliding ~~faces, which rest~~ face resting against an interior wall section (26) of the receiving chamber (20) assigned to the open end (16) of the damper body (14), ~~wherein~~ a sealing device (34) resting against the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) is arranged ~~in the area of the~~ near an end of the sliding element (12) projecting into the receiving chamber (20), wherein the end (32) of the sliding element (12) projecting into the receiving chamber (20) and the sealing device (34) form a hollow space (36) together with the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) in which[[,]] when the sliding element (12) is charged with a pressure, a counter-pressure is exerted on the sliding element (12) ~~because of~~ by the air pressure ~~being~~ built up in the hollow space (36), and ~~wherein,~~ for reducing the air pressure[[,]] the hollow space (36) has at least one opening (38a, 38b) for the escape of the air, the door-closing damper comprising:

~~characterized in that~~

at least one of the opening ~~has~~ having a diameter D [[<]] less than 0.2 mm~~, and/or that preferably the~~ and a ratio of ~~the~~ a cross-sectional surface of the sliding element (12) embodied as a piston in ~~the~~ an area facing the hollow chamber (36) and ~~of the~~ an opening cross section of the opening (38a, 38b) [[is]] being greater than 4000/1.

25[[26]]. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 24 [[25]], wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the diameter D of the opening (38a, 38b) is less than 0.1 mm.

26[[27]]. (Currently Amended) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 24 ~~24 or 25, characterized by one of claims 2 to 23~~ wherein a damping member works with the opening (38a, 38b).

27. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the damping member (39a, 39b) is made of one of a sinter metal, a plastic foam, a textile material, a felt material and a material providing a resistance to the air flow.

28. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the opening (38a) is arranged at the closed end (18) of the damper body (14).

29. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the opening (38b) is arranged on the sliding element (12).

30. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the damping member (39a, 39b) is arranged on a side of the opening (38a, 38b) facing away from the hollow chamber (36).

31. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the damping member is arranged on a second side of the opening (38a, 38b) facing the hollow chamber (36).

32. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the damping member is arranged inside the opening (38a, 38b).

33. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the damper body (12) has a spring (42) arranged in the receiving chamber (20) and pushes the sliding element (12) at least partially out of the receiving chamber (20), and has a spring force against which the sliding element (12) can be pushed into the receiving chamber (20).

34. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the elastic sealing lip (34) is substantially inclined toward the closed end (18) of the receiving chamber (20), is at least partially spaced apart from the outer contour (24) of the sliding element (12) and is arranged at the end (32) of the sliding element (12) extending into the receiving chamber (20).

35. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein an underpressure created in the hollow space (36) spaces the elastic sealing lip (34) of the sealing device in the space (30) between the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) and the outer contour (24) of the sliding element (12) apart from the inner contour (28) of the receiving chamber (20) during an at least partial pull-out of the sliding element (12) from the receiving chamber (20) so that air can flow through the space (30) between the inner contour (28) of the receiving

chamber (20) and the outer contour (24) of the sliding element (12) beyond the sealing lip (34) into the hollow space (36).

36. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein at least one protrusion (50) is formed on the interior wall section of the receiving chamber (20) associated with the open end (16) of the damper body (14) which contacts the at least one sliding face of the sliding element (12).

37. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the damper body (14) is insertable into a blind bore (58) in a receiver body (54), the damper body (14) has a shoulder (60) at least partially encircling on an outer contour (24) associated with the open end (16) which limits an insertion depth of the damper body (14) in the blind bore (58).

38. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the sliding body (12) has an elongated recess (44) which at least partially extends substantially in a direction of a longitudinal extension and is arranged at the closed end (18) of the receiving chamber (20), into which the spring (42) arranged in the receiving chamber (20) extends.

39. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the stop element (22) has a detent head (23) which projects at least partially over an edge area (17) of an opening at the open end (16) of the damper body (14) and which, with the substantially completely pushed-in sliding element (12), is stopped on the edge area (17).

40. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the sliding element (12) is integrated with the sealing device (34).

41. (New) The door-closing damper in accordance with claim 1, wherein the stop element has a releasable connection of the door-closing damper with a connecting element.